

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 ACDA-19

SAM-01 DRC-01 /182 W

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R 301343Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6931

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USUN NEW YORK 3475

USINT DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3711

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US EG IS

SUBJ: PRESS TREATMENT OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

1. ALL THREE ARABIC LANGUAGE DAILIES MAY 30 BANNER HEADLINE
ACHIEVEMENT OF SYRIAN/ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. FEATURE
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STORIES CITE NEWS AGENCIES FROM DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV AND WASHINGTON.

AHRAM ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT REACHED BUT DOES NOT MENTION THAT SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN WASHINGTON, TEL AVIV AND DAMASCUS. AKHBAR'S BANNER HEADLINE IS "NIXON ANNOUNCES THE AGREEMENT" AND FIRST SENTENCE OF ARTICLE MENTIONS SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. FIRST EDITION OF ALL THREE PAPERS GIVE ALL SALIENT POINTS OF NIXON STATEMENT. LATER EDITIONS, HOWEVER, OMIT FIRST PARAGRAPH OF STATEMENT WHICH SAYS DISCUSSIONS CONDUCTED BY SECRETARY WITH SYRIA AND ISRAEL HAVE LED TO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED BY MILITARY REPS IN WORKING GROUP AT GENEVA ON FRIDAY. LATER EDITIONS PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION ON TIMING AND VENUE BUT ONLY AS NEWS ITEM, NOT ATTRIBUTED TO THE PRESIDENT. ALL EDITIONS ENGLISH LANGUAGE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE CARRY PARAGRAPH AS QUOTATION FROM PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT.

3. GROMYKO/ASAD COMMUNIQUE IS GIVEN SECONDARY PROMINENCE IN AKHBAR AND AHRAM WHICH CARRY STORY AS SEPARATE ITEMS. AHRAM RUNS A SMALL FRONT PAGE PICTURE OF GROMYKO AND THE SECRETARY. GUMHURIYYA MENTIONS JOINT COMMUNIQUE AS TAG END TO MAIN STORY ON PAGE 7.

4. ONLY AKHBAR HAS EDITORIAL ON DISENGAGEMENT, STRESSING AGREEMENT IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF BUT RATHER A CEASE-FIRE, A FIRST STEP TOWARD A JUST AND OVERALL SETTLEMENT. PAPER ADDS OCTOBER WAR EXPLODED ALL "ISRAEL'S DELUSIONS" AND ITS "THEORY OF SECURITY" THUS PROVIDING CLEAR LESSONS THAT ISRAEL SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT DURING NEXT STAGE OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.

5. COMMENT: WE NOTED EVENING OF MAY 29 THAT SECURITY MEASURES HAVE BEEN REINFORCED IN CAIRO. PERHAPS IN ANTICIPATION OF CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT, GOE HAS PLACED EXTRA TROOPS AT SUCH PLACES AS AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, TV STATION, AND CAIRO BRIDGES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT AS SECURITY PRECAUTION, ADDITIONAL GUARDS WILL BE PLACED AROUND THE EMBASSY COMPOUND.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MUTUAL FORCE WITHDRAWALS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CAIRO03711
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740136-0699
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974058/aaaaagvu.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS TREATMENT OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, US, EG, IS, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005